

Docket No.: 1459-0005BAmdt
29/15 (NE)

PATENT

Linda

7/3/02

w/ drawings

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Yoke Min Sin et al

Serial No. 09/196,161

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: November 20, 1998

Examiner: N. Minnifield

For: A RECOMBINANT VACCINE AGAINST FISH INFECTIOUS DISEASES

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Honorable Assistant Commissioner

For Patents

Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the office action dated December 11, 2001, the period for response having been extended for three (3) months to expire June 11, 2002 by reason of a petition and a fee therefore filed herewith, kindly amend the above identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Starting on Page 10, paragraph 1

The immobilization antigen of *I. Multifiliis* (i-AgI) consisted of three tandem repeats in its central region. Three DNA segments of similar length were designed to cover a complete repeat I of i-AgI. For each segment, two oligonucleotides, representing both coding and noncoding strands, were synthesized. To ensure efficient intermolecular annealing, the two oligonucleotides contained 12 complementary nucleotides at their 3' ends (Fig. 1B). Restriction sites were engineered at the 5' ends of each oligonucleotide to facilitate cloning. To generate double-stranded DNA from the oligonucleotides, 10 :1 each of the corresponding two